

FILED/ACCEPTED

AUG - 9 2011

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Sir,

As a boater and an licensed Amateur Radio Operator (N6QIR) I would like to submit the following for consideration concerning SAT-MOD-20101118-00239. Because of the importance of GPS navigation to our society, from automobiles to aircraft to boating, the Commission must make certain that any decision made in this case is based on the best science available, not how much money LightSquared stands to make or lose.

While more capacity for wireless broadband services is important, it should not come at the expense of GPS, which is critical to our country's economy. The results of the testing that were performed at the FCC's request are conclusive - they show that GPS reception would be wiped out by LightSquared's proposed service. Now that the test results have shown interference to GPS, the FCC shouldn't allow LightSquared to keep trying out modified versions of its plan to use the spectrum near the GPS band. LightSquared's operations and GPS are fundamentally incompatible and the FCC should order LightSquared out of that band.

In your deliberations, please consider the following:

1. The FCC must make clear, and the NTIA must ensure, that LightSquared's license modification is contingent on the outcome of the mandated study unequivocally demonstrating that there is no interference to GPS. The study must be comprehensive, objective, and based on correct assumptions about existing GPS uses rather than theoretical possibilities. Given the substantial pre-existing investment in GPS systems and infrastructure, and the critical nature of GPS applications, the results of studies must conclusively demonstrate that there is absolutely no risk of interference. If there is conflicting evidence, doubts must be resolved against the LightSquared terrestrial system. The views of LightSquared, as an interested party, are entitled to no special weight in this process.
2. The FCC should make clear that LightSquared and its investors are proceeding at their own risk in advance of the FCC's assessment of the working group's analysis. While this is the FCC's established policy, the Commission's International Bureau failed to make this explicit in its order.
3. Resolution of interference has to be the obligation of LightSquared, not the extensive GPS user community of millions of citizens. LightSquared must bear the costs of preventing interference emanating from their devices, and if there is no way to prevent interference, it should not be permitted to operate. GPS users or providers should not have to bear any of the consequences of LightSquared's actions.

This is a matter of critical national interest. There must be a reasonable opportunity for public comment of at least 45 days on the report produced by the working group and further FCC actions on the LightSquared modification order should take place with the approval of a majority of the commissioners, not at the bureau level.

Private Citizen
7/21/11